

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 TRSE-00 EB-11 INT-08 GSA-01 OEP-01

AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SAL-01 SS-14 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

NEA-10 RSR-01 (ADP) W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7191

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ENRG, UR

SUBJECT: PRAVDA COMMENTARY ON US FUELS POLICY

BONN FOR SHULTZ PARTY

1. COMMENTARY IN MAR. 14 PRAVDA AUTHORED BY SERGEY VISHNYEVSKIY POINTS UP GROWING ENERGY CRISIS IN US, QUOTING UNNAMED WASHINGTON SOURCES THAT LEVEL OF OIL EXTRACTION IN US " IS NO LONGER CAPABLE OF STAISFYING THE GROWING DEMAND FOR OIL AND OIL PRODUCTS." MANY WELL- KNOWN FACETS OF FUEL SHORTAGE IN US ARE MENTIONED, SUCH AS SCHOOL CLOSINGS AND LARGE NUMBERS OF UNDER- HEATED HOMES.

2. VISHNYEVSKIY STATES THAT SOURCES OF SUPPLY IS DILEMMA FACING WASHINGTON POLICY- MAKERS AS THEY LOOK TO FOREIGN MARKETS FOR OIL PRODUCTS. NOWADAYS US CAN ILL AFFORD POLICY OF DICTATING ITS WILL ON WEAK MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES; ALTERNATIVE IS TO SEEK SUPPLIES FROM OTHER COUNTRIES ON MUTUALLY- ADVANTAGEOUS BASIS FOR PRODUCER- SUPPLIER AND US ALIKE, " WITHOUT LIMITATIONS OR DISCRIMINATION." IN THIS CONNECTION,
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WRITES VISHNYEVSKIY, NEWSWEEK HAS REMINDED US THAT USSR HAS HUGE RESOURCES OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS AT ITS DISPOSAL. FUTURE WILL SHOW, HE SAYS, WHETHER US POLICY WILL TURN OUT TO BE "TRADITIONAL" OR REALISTIC.

3. COMMENT: ARTICLE IS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF INTENSE SOVIET INTEREST IN US DOMESTIC FUEL SITUATION AND AWARENESS OF EVER-INCREASING US NEED TO LOOK TO FOREIGN MARKETS FOR OIL (AND GAS) SUPPLIES. TIMING OF COMMENTARY TO COINCIDE WITH VISIT OF SECRETARY SHULTZ CAN BE VIEWED AS REFLECTION OF CONTINUING SOVIET DESIRE FOR AMERICAN COOPERATION AND TECHNOLOGY IN DEVELOPING USSR'S VAST DOMESTIC ENERGY RESOURCES.
DUBS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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